

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS STATE 179234

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: PLEDGE LETTER TO UNHCR

REF: GENEVA 5637

1. AMBASSADOR DALE IS REQUESTED TO SIGN A PLEDGE LETTER
TO THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER SARUDDIN AGA KHAN, TEXT AS
FOLLOWS:

"DEAR MR. HIGH COMMISSIONER:

-- I REFER TO PLEDGE LETTERS FROM THE COORDINATOR FOR
HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS DATED APRIL 29, 1976 AND MY LETTER
DATED JUNE 30, 1976 WHICH TOGETHER INCREASED TO 9,420,000
DOLLARS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PLEDGE FOR ALL UNHCR
INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROGRAMS. I ALSO REFER TO MR. MACE'S
LETTER DATED JULY 13, 1976 RECEIVED BY THE UNITED STATES
MISSION, GENEVA WHICH EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE A FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL PLEDGE
TO ALLOW A CONTINUATION OF THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE IN
THAILAND OF VIETNAMESE, CAMBODIAN AND LAO REFUGEES.

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-- I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES IS
INCREASING ITS PLEDGE BY 1,000,000 DOLLARS FOR CARE AND

MAINTENANCE IN THAILAND OF VIETNAMESE, CAMBODIAN AND LAO
REFUGEES, WITH A NEW TOTAL TO DATE OF 7,400,000 DOLLARS
PLEDGED TO UNHCR FOR THIS ACTIVITY. THE ABOVE PLEDGE
RAISES TO 10,420,000 THE OVERALL AMOUNT MADE AVAILABLE
BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR UNHCR INDOCHINESE
REFUGEE PROGRAMS.

-- IN MAKING THIS PLEDGE, I HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO
EXPRESS CONCERN THAT THERE STILL REMAINS A SUBSTANTIAL
SHORTFALL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF 12,400,000 YOU REQUIRE
TO FINANCE THE PROGRAM IN THAILAND THROUGH THE REMAINDER
OF THIS YEAR. UNTIL NOW THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
HAS BORNE THE MAJOR BURDEN OF FINANCING THE UNHCR SHARE
OF THIS PROGRAM. THE LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER
SOURCES HAS BEEN MOST DISAPPOINTING. HAVING IN MIND
YOUR CRITICAL NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS, IT WOULD APPEAR
TO BE APPROPRIATE FOR YOU TO RENEW YOUR APPEAL TO OTHER
GOVERNMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT IN
THE INTEREST OF BRINGING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE INTERNA-
TIONAL COMMUNITY THE NEED FOR FURTHER FINANCIAL CONTRI-
BUTIONS. I URGE YOU TO DO THIS.

-- AGAIN THE UNITED STATES VERY MUCH APPRECIATES
THE EFFORTS YOU HAVE UNDERTAKEN TO ASSIST REFUGEES FROM
INDOCHINA. SINCERELY, ". KISSINGER

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